

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 SAM-01 /105 W

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P 021100Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5469

INFO USMISSION USUN

AMEMBASSY COLOMBO PRIORITY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE JIDDA 5314

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, SA

SUBJECT: SAUDI REPRESENTATION AT NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT

REF: STATE 181798

1. THE SAG HAS DECIDED TO SEND A DELEGATION TO THE NON-ALIGNED SUMMIT CONFERENCE, THOUGH AT CONSIDERABLY BELOW THE SUMMIT LEVEL. THE DELEGATION WILL BE HEADED BY AMBASSADOR MA'MUN KABBANI WHO IS CURRENTLY SAUDI AMBASSADOR TO BRAZIL. FOR ABOUT A YEAR AND A HALF UNTIL HIS ASSIGNMENT TO BRAZIL IN LATE 1974, AMB KABBANI WAS DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AND CONFERENCE AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. AMB KABBANI HEADED THE SAG DELEGATION TO THE NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE MEETING IN LIMA LAST YEAR WHERE HE GAVE A SPIRITED DEFENSE OF SOUTH KOREAN INTERESTS. SAUDI ARABIA HAD IN FACT DECIDED TO SEND A DELEGATION TO LIMA ONLY TO ARGUE THIS ONE ISSUE--WHICH IN THE EVENT WAS LOST.

2. AMB KABBANI WILL BE ASSITED IN HIS MISSION BY TAHA DUGHATHER, CURRENT AND LONG-TERM ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE AFRICAN AND ASIAN AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY. DUGHATHER HAS ALSO PREVIOUSLY SERVED FOR ALMOST A YEAR AS
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ACTING DIRECTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION AND CON-

REFERENCE AFFAIRS DEPT. BOTH AMB KABBANI AND DUGHATHER ARE FULLY CONVERSANT WITH THE KOREAN QUESTION. WE DID NOT DELIVER THE AIDE MEMOIRE ON THE KOREAN ITEM CONTAINED REFTEL BECAUSE THE KOREAN EMBASSY HERE (CORE GROUP LEADER) HAS BEEN COVERING THE FOREIGN MINISTRY WITH PAPER IN THE LAST FEW DAYS AND WE JUDGED THAT OUR EFFORT WOULD BE SUPERFLOUS. WE MIGHT MOREOVER HAVE HAD THE NEGATIVE EFFECT OF UNDERCUTTING A KOREAN EFFORT WHICH SEEMED TO BE MAKING AN EFFECT ON THE SAG.

3. ON THE PUERTO RICAN QUESTION, THE DIRECTOR OF WESTERN HEMISPHERE AFFAIRS INFORMED US AUGUST 1 THAT OUR AIDE MEMOIRE ON THE SUBJECT HAD BEEN INCLUDED AMONG THE DELEGATION'S PAPERS AS THE SAUDI POSITION.

4. BOTH KABBANI AND DUGHATHER HAVE LIVED IN THE UNITED STATES. BOTH SPEAK EXCELLENT ENGLISH AND ARE VERY WELL DISPOSED TOWARDS AMERICANS. IT MIGHT BE WORTH EMBASSY COLOMBO'S TIME TO PROVIDE THEM AN EVENING'S REFUGE FROM THIRD WORLD RHETORIC. BOTH WOULD APPRECIATE AMERICAN HOSPITALITY AND MIGHT OFFER USEFUL INFORMATION O PROGRESS OF THE CONFERENCE AND THE POSITIONS OF VARIOUS DELEGATIONS.
PORTER

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